



## **National Commission on the Future of the Army**

2530 Crystal Drive, Zachary Taylor Building, Suite 5000  
Arlington, VA 22202

**Subject:** Site Visits with US Army Civil Affairs Psychological Operations Command, 6-108th Military Intelligence Battalion, and 139th Regiment (North Carolina National Guard Regional Training Institute) Minutes

**Date:** 9 June 2015

**Time:** 1400-1700

**Locations:** US Army Civil Affairs Psychological Operations Command (USACAPOC) Headquarters, North Carolina National Guard Regional Training Institute, and Range 63, Fort Bragg, NC

**Attendees:**

Commissioner Carter F. Ham, Commission Chairman  
Commissioner Jack C. Stultz  
Mr. Don Tison, Designated Federal Officer (DFO)  
COL Richard Miller, NCFA Staff  
Mr. Kerry Schindler, NCFA Staff  
LTC Brian Rice, NCFA Staff

**Documents Submitted to Commission:**

1. USACAPOC: unclassified unit brief
2. 6-108th Military Intelligence Battalion (USAR): unclassified unit brief
3. 139th Regiment (North Carolina National Guard Regional Training Institute): unclassified unit brief

**Meeting Summaries**

1. USACAPOC. COL George Hanhauser, Commander; MAJ Alexia Fields; CPT Robert Villa, Unit Administrator; CPT Norian Medina, Student; MSG Richard Trujillo, SSG Daniel Thomas; SSG Chatchai Brunosky; SGT Jonathan Watkins, Student; Mr. Raymond Silva, Chief of Readiness.

Mr. Tison engaged with the Command Leadership Team and explained his role as the DFO and the applicability of FACA to this engagement. Afterwards, unit leaders briefed Commissioners on their mission, capabilities, unit locations, force structure, and global employment. Leaders highlighted that the US Army Reserve has approximately 60% of the Civil Affairs force structure in the Army. Leaders said that the goal for deploy to dwell ratio goal is 1:5, but that the current pace is higher. The pace of deployments has reduced recently, but that raises concerns that retention could be a problem if units do not continue real world missions. They noted that there are no issues with employers as long as the missions/deployments are predictable. Leaders mentioned reduced Full

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Time Support (FTS) funding and discussed how that means that some administrative tasks now must be completed during their 39 days allocated for training, which causes competing demands with collective level unit training. When discussing deployments, unit leaders stated that the number one issue is post-mobilization certification. Units had to recertify tasks at post-mobilization training stations that they had completed during pre-mobilization training at home station.

2. 6-108th Military Intelligence Battalion (USAR). LTC Donald Kettering, Battalion Commander; 1LT Vanessa McCormick, Course Manager; CPT Jeremy Vantress, Battalion S-1; SSG Son Joi Brantley, Battalion S-1 NCOIC; SSG Nicole Dial, Battalion S-3 ATRRS NCO; SSG Christopher Lytle, Instructor (MOS 35L); SSG Oswaldo RamosOrtiz, Instructor (MOS 35M); SSG Tyra Supranovich, Instructor (MOS 35M); SSG Amanda Wenk, Instructor (MOS 35F); SSG Derek Williams, Instructor (MOS 35M); SSG Bradley Cox, Instructor (MOS 35L).

Mr. Tison engaged with the Command Leadership Team and explained his role as the DFO and the applicability of FACA to this engagement. Afterwards, unit leaders briefed Commissioners on their mission, task organization, unit locations, and operational highlights. Leaders stated that they train over 800 Soldiers per year in the 35-series (Military Intelligence) Military Occupational Specialties (MOS). They also stated that their unit has a special relationship with Fort Bragg with Soldiers routinely coming from the Active Component (AC) as a Regular Army Soldier and due to developing civilian career (or other circumstance), they transfer to the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR), then back as a traditional Soldier upon their return. Leaders also noted that they lacked adequate FTS funding and discussed some the impacts.

3. 139th Regiment (North Carolina National Guard Regional Training Institute). COL Manley James, Commander, 139th Regiment; CSM Jerry Martin, Command Sergeant Major, 139th Regiment; MAJ Christina Gilroy, Commander, Regional Training Site-Maintenance; CW4 William Horne, OIC/Director/Senior Instructor, Regional Training Site-Maintenance; MSG James Alexander, NCOIC/Chief Instructor, Regional Training Site-Maintenance

Mr. Tison engaged with the Command Leadership Team and explained his role as the DFO and the applicability of FACA to this engagement. Afterwards, unit leaders briefed Commissioners on their mission, history, task organization, the 139th Regiment's Total Army School System organization, funding, accreditation, curriculum, capabilities, training statistics, and facility usage. Leaders discussed that the RTI operates seven days a week versus some Active Component (AC) schools that train five days a week. They briefed that because of a seven day training week, AC Soldiers routinely sought training at the RTI to allow them to return to their unit quicker. Unit leaders also noted that they lacked adequate FTS funding.

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At the completion of the unit briefings, Commissioners moved to Range 63 and observed an M1A1 Abrams tank of the 30th Armored Brigade Combat Team (NCNG) fire a Table VI gunnery. At the completion of the training, Commissioners talked with leaders and Soldiers of the unit, leaders had previously been advised on the role of the DFO and the applicability of FACA to this engagement. Some Soldiers expressed a desire to be able to move from Army component to component and some were concerned about the amount of mandatory individual training that impacts unit collective level training time. Soldiers stated that they hadn't had issues with employers during deployments and that a deploy to dwell ratio of 1:4 is about right. They also stated that Brigade Combat Teams (BCT) are great for larger states because it affords the Soldiers career development opportunities.

Commissioners closed each visit by thanking the units and commenting that they were impressed with the quality and expertise of the unit members.